



---

## ***Press Release***

### ***Contact:***

Ray Schultz, Assistant Police Chief Memorial Villages Police Department  
Karen Glynn, City Administrator Bunker Hill Village

713-365-3700  
713-467-9762

### ***"Smart Cities Virtual Gate Study" Crime Prevention Cameras to be Studied for the Memorial Villages Police Department Jurisdiction (Cities of Bunker Hill, Hunters Creek and Piney Point)***

The Mayors of the Cities of Bunker Hill, Hunters Creek and Piney Point are pleased to invite you to an informational meeting on **Tuesday, February 7, 2017 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm at the Kinkaid School** to discuss a study approved by the three cities to improve crime prevention. A Tri-Cities Public Safety Committee has been appointed and is overseeing the study development. The study, *"Smart Cities Virtual Gate Study,"* explores the use of license plate recognition cameras and closed-circuit television/video surveillance at all entrance and exit locations under the jurisdiction of the Memorial Villages Police Department.

Assistant Police Chief Ray Schultz explains: "The use of license plate recognition cameras at strategic locations in the Cities will help solve crimes after they occur by providing police officers a searchable database of license plates." The cameras will record the exterior of vehicles for the purpose of capturing license plates. With the exception of emergency situations or special circumstances, there will be no live monitoring of the system.

The concept works as follows:

- A crime occurs.
- A witness provides a vehicle description.
- A police officer authorized to access the system searches the database for the suspect vehicle and its license plate number.

The system will also serve as a crime deterrent. If criminals know that cameras are in place, they will be less likely to commit crimes in the area.

License plate records will be retained for no more than 30 days and the CCTV for 24 hours, except when used as evidence as part of a criminal investigation. Information will not be shared with the general public, unless required by law for law enforcement matters. The use of the camera system will be consistent with privacy laws and the constitutional rights of individuals.

The public is invited to the informational meeting on February 7, 2017 to learn more about the upcoming study.